

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ELOUISE PEPION COBELL, et al.,)
)
 Plaintiffs,)
)
 v.) Case No. 1:96cv01285(JR)
)
 DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Secretary of the Interior,)
 et al.,)
)
 Defendants.)
 _____)

**NOTICE OF FILING OF MARCH 2008 STATUS REPORT BY
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF TRUST RECORDS**

The Department of the Interior Office of Trust Records hereby submits its status report for activity in March 2008. A copy of the report is attached hereto.

Dated: April 15, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

JEFFREY S. BUCHOLTZ
Acting Assistant Attorney General
MICHAEL F. HERTZ
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
J. CHRISTOPHER KOHN
Director

/s/ Robert E. Kirschman, Jr.
ROBERT E. KIRSCHMAN, JR.
Deputy Director
(D.C. Bar No. 406635)
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, on April 15, 2008 the foregoing *Notice of Filing of March 2008 Status Report by the Department of the Interior Office of Trust Records* was served by Electronic Case Filing, and on the following who is not registered for Electronic Case Filing, by facsimile:

Earl Old Person (*Pro se*)
Blackfeet Tribe
P.O. Box 850
Browning, MT 59417
Fax (406) 338-7530

/s/ Kevin P. Kingston
Kevin P. Kingston

ACTIVITY REPORT
OFFICE OF TRUST RECORDS
March 1 - 31, 2008

PROGRAMMATIC:

- **Labat-Anderson (Labat Indexing Project)**

Labat reported that indexing of 1,921 boxes of inactive Indian records was completed in March 2008. The total number of boxes completed through March 2008 is approximately 171,340.

- **Movement of Records**

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Office of the Special Trustee (OST) moved 2,909 boxes of inactive records from various field locations to Lenexa, Kansas, for indexing and subsequent storage at the American Indian Records Repository (AIRR) during this reporting period.

- **Site Assessments Statement**

During the month of March, OTRA performed 3 records assessments at the following locations: Hopi Agency BIA office, Cherokee Agency OST IIM office, and Tulsa OST IIM office. OTRA also performed 10 follow-up records assessments at the following locations: Western Region BIA office; San Carlos Agency BIA office; San Carlos OST IIM office; Salt River Agency BIA office; Salt River OST IIM office; Pima Agency BIA office; Pima OST IIM office; Fort Apache Agency BIA office; Fort Apache OST IIM office; and OST Office of Appraisal Services, Western Region. OTRA issued 4 records assessment reports, one for each of the following locations: Fort Defiance Agency BIA office (follow-up); Hopi Agency BIA office; Tulsa OST IIM Office; and Cherokee OST IIM office.

- **Records Training**

In March 2008, OTR provided records management training for 46 BIA/OST records contacts and 49 tribal employees. OTR provided training on vital records for 25 BIA employees.

- **Equipment**

30 pieces of fireproof filing equipment were delivered to BIA/OST and Tribal offices in March 2008.

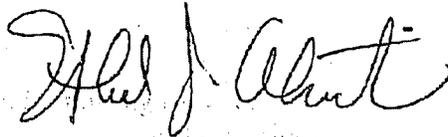
- **Litigation Support and Research Requests**

OTR continued to provide significant support to the Office of the Solicitor, Office of Historical Trust Accounting and its contractors, the Department of Justice and its contractors, and tribal attorneys on behalf of various Tribes. AIRR staff provided responses to 288 research requests from BIA, OST and other requesters. With the filing of numerous tribal trust litigation cases, litigation-related information and document requests pertaining to records at the AIRR continue to increase. Many of these requests have very short deadlines.

ADMINISTRATIVE: General administrative activities continued.

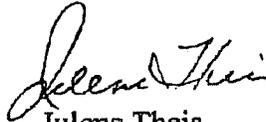
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS: None.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I express no opinion on the content of the Site Assessments Statement described above.



Ethel J. Abeita

I declare under penalty of perjury that the content of the Site Assessments Statement described above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I express no opinion on the contents of other sections/subsections of the report.



Julene Theis

Acting Director, Office of Trust Review and Audit